AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of selectively installing software onto a computer system manufactured by a computer system manufacturer, said method comprising:

reading a configuration file that contains computer system information, the computer system information including manufacturer specific identification information identifying the computer system manufacturer;

determining an encrypted key from one or more bytes from the configuration file including the manufacturer specific identification information;

deciphering data stored on a nonvolatile storage device using the key so as to ensure that the software is installed only on a computer system manufactured by the computer system manufacturer.

2.   (Previously Amended) The method, as recited in claim 1, wherein the configuration file includes a BIOS memory file.

3.   (Previously Amended) The method, as recited in claim 2, wherein the BIOS memory file is stored in nonvolatile memory connected to the computer system.

4.   (Original) The method, as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
storing the key in a registry file.

5.   (Original) The method, as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
copying the deciphered data onto another nonvolatile storage device connected to the computer system.

6.   (Original) The method, as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
checking the authenticity of the key.

-2-

7.   (Original) The method, as recited in claim 1, wherein the reading and the determining are performed by a software program stored in a dynamic linked library.

8.   (Original) The method, as recited in claim 1, wherein the nonvolatile storage device includes:

    a CD-ROM device; and

    a CD-ROM.

9.   (Original) The method, as recited in claim 1, wherein the nonvolatile storage device stores the data on a Web Page that is accessible on a global computer network.

10.   (Currently Amended) A computer system for selectively installing software, the computer system being manufactured by a computer system manufacturer, the [, said] computer system comprising:

    a processor;

    nonvolatile memory operatively coupled to the processor;

    a nonvolatile storage device;

    one or more configuration files, the one or more configuration files containing computer system information, the computer system information including manufacturer specific identification information identifying the computer system manufacturer;

    a computer program executable by the processor, wherein the computer program is capable of reading a configuration file stored in the nonvolatile memory, determining an encrypted key from one or more bytes read from the configuration file including the manufacturer specific identification information;

    wherein the encrypted key is capable of deciphering data stored on the nonvolatile storage device so as to ensure that the software is installed only on a computer system manufactured by the computer system manufacturer.

11.   (Previously Amended) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, wherein the configuration file includes a BIOS memory file.

12.   (Original) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

-3-

a second nonvolatile storage device; and

a registry file stored on the second nonvolatile storage device;

wherein the encrypted key is stored in the registry.

13.   (Original) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

a second nonvolatile storage device that stores the deciphered data.

14.   (Original) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, wherein the computer software is further capable of checking the authenticity of the encrypted key.

15.   (Original) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, wherein the software program is located in a dynamic linked library.

16.   (Original) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, wherein the nonvolatile storage device includes:

a CD-ROM device; and

a CD-ROM.

17.   (Original) The computer system, as recited in claim 10, wherein the nonvolatile storage device stores the data on a Web Page that is accessible on a global computer network.

18.   (Currently Amended) A method of selectively installing software onto a computer system manufactured by a computer system manufacturer, said method comprising:

reading a configuration file that contains computer system information, the computer system information including manufacturer specific identification information identifying the computer system manufacturer;

determining a key from one or more bytes from the configuration file including manufacturer specific information;

storing the key in a registry file.

19.   (Previously Amended) The computer readable medium, as recited in claim 18, wherein the configuration file includes a BIOS memory file.

-4-

20. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium for selectively installing software onto a computer system manufactured by a computer system manufacturer, the computer readable medium comprising:

> means for reading a configuration file that contains computer system information, the
>> computer system information including manufacturer specific identification
>> information identifying the computer system manufacturer;
> means for determining a key from one or more bytes from the configuration file including
>> the manufacturer specific identification information;
> means for storing the key in a registry.

21. (Previously Amended) The computer readable medium, as recited in claim 20, wherein the configuration file includes a BIOS memory file.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer system for selectively installing software onto a computer system manufactured by a computer system manufacturer, the computer system comprising:

> means for reading a configuration file that contains computer system information, the
>> computer system information including manufacturer specific identification
>> information identifying the computer system manufacturer;
> means for determining a key from one or more bytes from the configuration file including
>> the manufacturer specific identification information;
> means for storing the key in a registry.

-5-